



Quran Project

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Class 7

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Part I

How does praying Salat help you get closer to Allah?

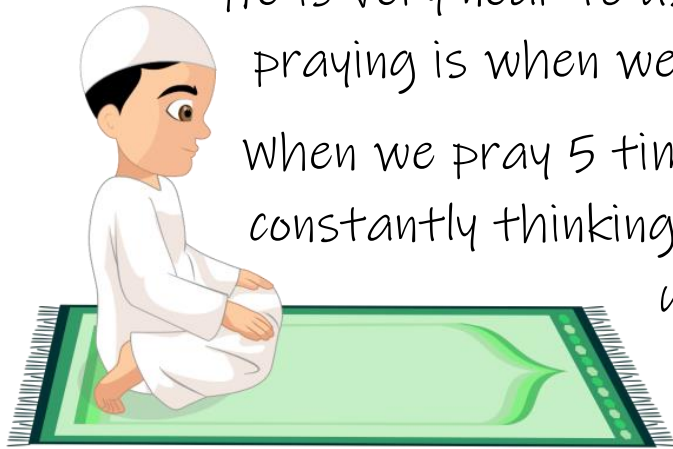
Write a minimum of 50 words on how Salat affects your day.

Salat helps us get closer to Allah as when we pray, we say Qurbatan Ilallah which means we are doing it for Allah. But if we get the literal meaning Qurbatan comes from Qurb which means to get close. So, we say we are praying so that we get closer to Allah. Allah says in Surah Baqarah:

"And when My servants ask you concerning Me, then surely I am very near; I answer the prayer of the suppliant when he calls on Me, so they should answer My call and believe in Me that they may walk in the right way."



What this means is that when we are praying to Allah. He is very near to us. What we mean by praying is when we are praying Salat.



When we pray 5 times a day, we are constantly thinking about Allah. This makes us aware of all the actions that we do in between the prayers, because we

know that if we do something wrong, in some time we will have to go in front of Allah to pray. And if we do something wrong we will be ashamed to go in front of him. So this way we avoid doing sins and bad deeds. When we avoid doing bad deeds we do more good deeds and when we do these good deeds for the sake of Allah as he is always in our mind, we will become a lot more closer to him.

Salaah affects our daily lives in many ways one of these is:

It makes us punctual and gives us an ideal routine to work efficiently.

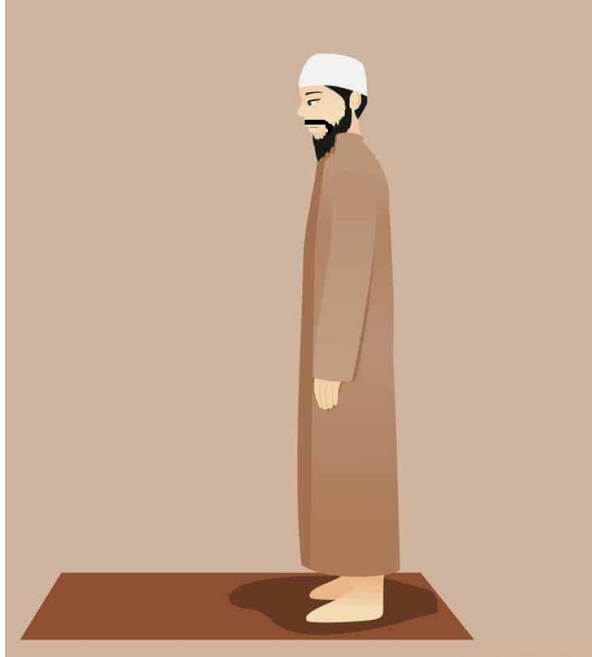
Fajr time or morning just





before dawn, urges us that we should start our day early.

At mid-day or zuhr, we should take a little break from work. Which also means that we should focus on doing all our work in the morning.



Before sunset or asr ensures another break. Maghrib, before sunset, indicates the time of day when we should stop our work and be with family or the community.

Isha is the final prayer which signals time for bed. Praying Salaat on time also makes us very punctual, as

we try to pray at the time of fadhilat.

Another way salaah affects our daily life is that it makes our willpower stronger. Because for example you are playing a video game and the time of prayer comes, if you want to pray on the time of fadhilat then you will have to leave the video game even if you don't want to. So it teaches us self control

Prayer also makes us a better person because we try to do good deeds all the time so we will always be fair



in our dealings in day-to-day life. By not lying, not hurting other people..etc

Finally, Allah says in the Quran in Surah Baqara, Ayah 152

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
فَاذْكُرُونِي أَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا لِي وَلَا تَكْفُرُونِ ﴿١٥٢﴾

Therefore remember Me, I will remember you, and be thankful to Me, and do not be ungrateful to Me.

So, Allah will remember us and help us in our problems.





Part II

Animals in the Holy Qur'an:

Choose three of the following animals and use your tafseer to find the relevant ayaat in the Holy Qur'an:

- 1) The Valley of ants which Prophet Sulayman passed with his army
- 2) The fish (whale) that swallowed Prophet Yunus
- 3) Prophet Musa's stick that became a serpent
- 4) The crows that showed Qabil how to bury Habil
- 5) The plague of frogs that Allah sent down to the people of Egypt

Once you have found the relevant ayaat:

- 1) Write it out with translation and references.
- 2) Tell the story in your own words (at least half a page).
- 3) Illustrate each story you narrate
- 4) List any lessons we may learn from this story.



Prophet Sulayman and the Ants



Quranic Text

مَسَاكِنَكُمْ لَا يَحْطِمَنَّكُمْ سُلَيْمَانُ وَجُنُودُهُ وَهُمْ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ (18)

Surah Namal, Ayah 17-18



Translation

Until when they came to the valley of the Naml, a Namlite said: O Naml! enter your houses, (that) Sulaiman and his hosts may not crush you while they do not know.



Story

Prophet Sulayman was the youngest son of Prophet Dawood (AS) and Prophet Dawood (AS) had given the throne to Prophet Sulayman. Prophet Sulayman had a very large army and had the strongest kingdom in the world at that time. His army included jinn, people, and birds. Once Prophet Sulayman (AS) was going with his army of Jinn, birds, and



humans. When he was crossing a valley, he heard an ant screaming to his fellow ants: O ants, enter your dwellings lest you are crushed by Sulayman and his army by mistake. When the prophet of Allah heard this, he got off his horse went to the ant and said:

"Did you think that a Prophet of Allah would ever harm any of His creatures?" The ant replied

"No I did not, but I was worried that when my fellow ants would see the grandeur of your army, they would underestimate their own bounties from Allah and become ungrateful. It is for this reason that I asked them to hide out of sight."





Lessons Learnt

1. I find from this is that the Prophet even cared about such small animals like ants and were careful not to hurt them. So, we should also always try that no living creature gets hurt by anything we do. Because they are all creatures of Allah and we should respect them and care for them.
2. Another lesson I learn is that we should never be ungrateful for things Allah has given us. When we see other people having more than us, even then we should say Alhamdulillah because we are still better off than many other people.



Reference: tanzil.net, Shakir; Story from
Tareekh Book (In My own words)



The fish (whale) that swallowed Prophet Yunus



Quranic Text

وَإِنَّ يُونُسَ لَمِنَ الْمُرْسَلِينَ ﴿١٣٩﴾ إِذْ أَبَقَ إِلَى الْفُلِّ الْمَشْحُونِ ﴿١٤٠﴾ فَسَاهَمَ فَكَانَ
مِنَ الْمُدْحَضِينَ ﴿١٤١﴾ فَالْتَقَمَهُ الْحُوتُ وَهُوَ مُلِيمٌ ﴿١٤٢﴾ فَلَوْلَا أَنَّهُ كَانَ مِنَ
الْمُسَبِّحِينَ ﴿١٤٣﴾ لَكُنَّا فِي بَطْنِهِ إِلَى يَوْمِ يُبْعَثُونَ ﴿١٤٤﴾ فَتَنَبَّأَهُ بِالْعَرَاءِ وَهُوَ
سَقِيمٌ ﴿١٤٥﴾ وَأَنْبَتْنَا عَلَيْهِ شَجَرَةً مِّنْ يَقْطِينٍ ﴿١٤٦﴾

Surah Saffaat, Ayah 139-146



Translation

And Yunus was most surely of the apostles. () When he ran away to a ship completely laden, () So he shared (with them), but was of those who are cast off. () So the fish swallowed him while he did that for which he blamed himself () But had it not been that he was of those who glorify (Us) (), He would certainly have tarried in its belly to the day when they are raised. () Then we cast him on to the vacant surface of the earth while he was sick. () And we caused to grow up for him a gourd plant. (37:139-146)



Story

Prophet Yunus was sent to the people Nineveh for guidance he guided them a lot, but they continued saying let the punishment of Allah come. Then one day prophet Yunus got fed up and left the town while back in the town the sky turned red, the elders in the village reminded the people of the punishments of Aad and Thamud and told the people to beg for forgiveness. Then all the people in the town went on top of a mountain and stated begging for forgiveness Allah forgave them, but by this time Prophet Yunus (AS) had reached quite far away. He was on a boat to go to the sea, but while on there a storm struck. The captain said



they had to get rid of some load so they threw all their luggage in the sea, the captain said they still needed to get rid of some load so they drew lots of whom to throw out. The first time it was prophet

Yunus. The people thought Prophet Yunus was a very pious man so they drew the lots again, and again it was prophet Yunus. Prophet Yunus realized Allah wasn't happy with him as again in the third time his name came out. They then

proceeded to throw him in, but the prophet said Allah's name and jumped into the water. Behind the ship a whale was following and as soon as prophet Yunus jumped in the whale swallowed him and went into the depths of the sea. Then the prophet realized his mistake and asked Allah for forgiveness. Allah accepted it and ordered the whale to put him on an island. When he was there a tree grew for him that gave him health. When he recovered, he went back to Nineveh and was surprised of the changes.





Lessons Learnt

1. We should always be patient. Also, at the starting we see that Prophet Yunus (AS) wasn't patient and left without Allah's message, or command and Allah punished him by putting him in the belly of the whale where he was patient. As we see in Prophet Yunis's story that inside the belly of the whale he was patient.
2. When we do something wrong and realize our mistake, we should admit it and ask for forgiveness like Prophet Yunus asked Allah for forgiveness.
3. When in the belly of the whale we saw how Allah protected Prophet Yunis (AS) and got him out safe and sound. So, we should always trust Allah as he has power over all things and can he can solve all our problems no matter how impossible it seems.





Prophet Musa's stick that became a serpent



Quranic Text

فَأَلْقَى عَصَاهُ فَإِذَا هِيَ ثُعْبَانٌ مُّبِينٌ (32)

Surah Shu'raa Ayah 32



Translation

So he cast down his rod, and lo! it was an obvious serpent,



Story

Prophet Musa (AS) was sent to the Bani Israel. At that time Firaoun was the Pharaoh and made people worship him as god. Prophet Musa kept on trying, to tell people to believe in Allah, but they never listened. One day he was with his wife outside and on a mountain, he saw a tree on fire he went there and tried to put the fire out when he heard a

voice. It was Allah talking to him. Allah told him to throw his stick. He obliged and it turned into a serpent. Then Allah told him to go back and use this miracle to make people believe. The prophet did

this and the pharaoh said

that the prophet was a magician. They called the best magicians in the country to come and compete with the prophet and of course the miracle of

Allah won. When the magicians saw they were amazed as their tricks were only illusions and Prophet Musa's was a real serpent. At once they knew who the true god was and believed in Allah. Firaoun killed them in anger.





Lessons Learnt

1. You should always stand up against what is wrong. As we saw that Prophet Musa (AS) protested against Firaoun and Allah helped him by giving him miracles. So we should always protest against the wrong and Allah will help us like he helped Prophet Musa (AS).

2. We saw that everyone claimed that Prophet Musa (AS) was a magician so they called the best magicians in the country to compete against Prophet Musa (AS) and when the magicians saw that Prophet Musa was correct and Allah was the true God knowingly that Firaoun would kill them they stood up for the right. We should follow their example and always follow what is right even if that means we might be harmed.

